

MOTION BY MAYOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

MARCH 14, 2006

MARCH 24, 2006 AS "WORLD TUBERCULOSIS DAY"

Tuberculosis (TB) remains a global health threat of epidemic proportion. After AIDS, TB is the leading cause of infectious disease mortality in the world, with two to three million deaths per year.

"World Tuberculosis Day" commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of the bacterium that causes TB. Dr. Koch's discovery led to a more complete understanding of this disease and the subsequent development of medications that have saved the lives of millions of individuals.

Provisional data from 2005 show that 906 residents of Los Angeles County had active TB -- the largest number of active cases among all local health jurisdictions in California. TB disproportionately affects the elderly and foreign-born residents of Los Angeles County. However, the theme for "World Tuberculosis Day" in Los Angeles County in 2006, "The Many Faces of TB," reminds us that TB affects all communities in Los Angeles County.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors proclaims March 24, 2006 as "World Tuberculosis Day" and urges all residents, healthcare organizations, and community coalitions throughout the County to join in this effort to prevent and ultimately eliminate TB.

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MDA:tbc
World TB Day

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